

OFFICIAL GAZETTE

GOVERNMENT OF GOA

EXTRAORDINARY

No. 2

GOVERNMENT OF GOA

Department of Panchayat Raj and
Community Development

Directorate of Panchayats

Notification

7/DP/GP/ELECT/S & DS/96

Whereas the draft of the Goa Panchayat (Election of Sarpanch and Deputy Sarpanch) (First Amendment) Rules, 1997 was published as required by sub-section (1) of Section 240 of the Goa Panchayat Raj Act, 1994 (Goa Act 14 of 1994) at pages 403 to 404 of the Official Gazette, Series I, No. 24 dated 11th September 1997 under Notification No. 7/DP/GP/Elect/S & DS/96 dated 18-8-1997 of the Department of Panchayat Raj and Community Development inviting objections and suggestions from all persons likely to be affected thereby before the expiry of fifteen days from the date of publication of the said Notification in the Official Gazette.

And Whereas the said Gazette was made available to the public on 11th September, 1997;

And Whereas no objections/suggestions have been received from the public on the said draft by the Government.

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (6) of section 46 read with sub-section (2) of the Goa Panchayat Raj Act, 1994 (Goa Act 14 of 1994), the Government of Goa hereby makes the following rules, namely:—

AMENDMENT RULES

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (6) of section 46 read with sub-section (2) of Section 53 and Section 240 of the Goa Panchayat Raj Act, 1994 (Goa Act 14 of 1994), the Government of Goa hereby makes the following rules, namely:—

1. *Short title and commencement.*— (1) These rules may be called the Goa Panchayat (Election of Sarpanch and Deputy Sarpanch) (First Amendment), Rules, 1997.

(2) They shall come into force at once.

2. *Insertion of new rule 17.*— After rule 16 of the Goa Panchayat (Election of Sarpanch and Deputy Sarpanch) Rules, 1997 the following shall be inserted, namely:—

17. *Filling up of casual vacancies of Sarpanch and or Deputy Sarpanch.*— (1) A casual vacancy in the office of the Sarpanch and/or Deputy Sarpanch as the case may be, shall be filled within such period or such date as fixed by the Director under sub-section (3) of section 53 of the Act in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

(2) The provisions of rules 4 to 16 of the rules shall mutatis and mutandis apply for election of filling up casual vacancy in the office of Sarpanch and/or Deputy Sarpanch as the case may be, and shall be presided over by such officer appointed by the Director. The Presiding Officer so appointed for the purpose shall fix the hour of the meeting and communicate it to the Panchayat members and the Secretary of the Panchayat.

By order and in the name of the Governor of Goa.

G. G. Kambli, Director of Panchayats and Ex-Officio Joint Secretary.

Panaji, 1st December, 1997.

Department of Power

Notification

150/1/CEE/TECH/3415

1. Introduction

The Power Advisory Committee is formed to provide the vital link between the Electricity Department and the consumers. It would give the public the confidence that their grievances are being properly represented and attended to besides advising on the development of power supply services in the State.

Power Advisory Committee is established for the entire jurisdiction of the State of Goa and will be chaired by the Hon'ble Minister for Power. The Committee will also include members representing various users interests outside the Electricity Department. The guidelines in succeeding paragraphs indicate the manner of formation and functioning of this Committee. These guidelines would come into force with immediate effect.

2. Size of Advisory Committee:

The State Level Power Advisory Committee will consist of eighteen (18) members.

The Committee will be chaired by the Power Minister and will have the Development Commissioner/Secretary (Power) as the Ex-Officio Vice Chairman. The Chief Electrical Engineer will be the Ex-Officio Member Secretary of the P. A. C.

The Annexure gives the categorywise composition of the Advisory Committee. The number of members of PAC can be increased upto 25% at the discretion of the Government and this increased limit shall not be exceeded except under exceptional, circumstances.

3. Procedure for Constitution:

The method of formation of Power Advisory Committee is as under:—

- a) The Chief Electrical Engineer will recommend to the Government suitable names representing the various interest. The Chief Electrical Engineer may consult the consumer Body or any association representing Press, Trade and Commerce, Industry Professional associations etc.
- b) Recommendations/nominations may be obtained by the Chief Electrical Engineer from the State Government and Presiding Officer of the State Legislature to represent the State Government and the State Legislature and forward to the Government.
- c) Nominations to the PACs will be made by the Government after considering the recommendations thus received from the Chief Electrical Engineer alongwith the other names received directly by the Government and by the Minister for Power.

The tenure of a PAC shall normally be two years from the day when the first member is nominated. Meetings of the Committee will be held atleast once in a quarter. Meeting dates should be fixed atleast 15 days in advance so that members have adequate prior intimation and as far as practicable, when the State Assembly is not in session.

4. Functions:

The functions of the Advisory Committee are:—

- a) Advising the Electricity Department for improvement of service to the public in the Electricity Sector.

- b) Bringing the Electricity consumers and the Electricity Department into closer relationship;
- c) Giving the public confidence that their grievances are being properly represented as well as attended to;
- d) Giving publicity to the action being taken by the Department for improving and developing power supply and service to the public.
- e) Assisting the Department in handling the shortages in materials, equipments and manpower by invoking co-operation and patience from public.

5. Need for further involvement of Members:

With the expansion of the Power Supply Network in the State and the problems faced by the Electricity Department in fulfilling the increasing expectations of the public, there is need for greater understanding between the Department and its consumers. Members of the Advisory Committee can play a very useful role in educating the public about the constraints of the Electricity Department in giving a still better service to the public. To enable members of the Advisory Committee to get first hand information and detailed knowledge of various procedures, checks and counter checks being exercised by the Electricity Department, they may be actively associated with the following activities if they so desired:—

- i) Investigation of service complaints of power interruptions for long durations and low voltage problems.
- ii) Monitoring of street lights scheme.
- iii) Complaints of delayed release of new service connections.
- iv) Maintenance of lines and equipments.
- v) General complaints e. g. non receipt of bills, excess billing (but not individual cases);
- vi) Co-ordination for building plans, underground cable laying works etc. with local authorities.

6. Formation of Sub-Committees:

To achieve the above objectives, it has been decided that where members are willing, Sub-Committees may be formed. A Sub Committee may generally consist of 3 or 5 members of the Advisory Committee with the Chief Electrical Engineer or the concerned Superintending Engineer and/or the Executive Engineer in the concerned circle/Division. PAC members may volunteer to serve on these committees.

The Sub-Committee may take up a few specific complaints of the type mentioned in para 5 above, and when a consumer has a grievance or a complaint to make and where a PAC member of the Sub-Committee feels that there is scope for improvement in the method of working of the concerned Division/Sub-Divisional Office. After a detailed study, the Sub-Committee could give their

views and recommendations. The Chief Electrical Engineer will take necessary action on the recommendations of the Committee, if this is within his powers. In case recommendations/modifications are required to be referred to the Government the same will be sent with the recommendations of the Power Minister after discussion in the PAC meeting.

The recommendations/suggestions will be of recommendatory nature and would not absolve the Departmental Officers of their responsibilities nor will it take away their authority to decide the cases on merits.

Disqualification of PAC Members:

The membership of PAC member shall be deemed to have been cancelled if a member does not attend three consecutive PAC meetings. Further the membership is also liable to be cancelled on the report of the Chairman of the PAC on misbehaviour/unsocial or anti-social activities, etc. on the part of the PAC member.

These guidelines shall come into force with immediate effect.

ANNEXURE

Advisory Committee Members

1. Chairman ... Hon'ble Minister for Power.
2. Vice Chairman ... The Development Commissioner/
/Secretary Power.
3. Ex-Officio Member
Secretary ... Chief Electrical Engineer.

4. Representative ... Power Supply generating Company
M/s Reliance Salgaonkar Power
Company.
5. Representative ... Goa Small Industries Association.
6. Representative ... Goa Chamber of Commerce & Industries.
7. Representative ... Hotel Industry.
8. Representative ... Public Interest.
9. Representative ... — do —
10. Representative ... — do —
11. Representative ... Goa Legislative Assembly.
12. Representative ... Local Self Government.
13. Representative ... Labourers employed in Electricity
Department.
14. Representative ... From Press.
15. Representative ... Agricultural Sector.
16. Representative ... Legal Profession.
17. Representative ... Transport Industry.
18. Representative ... Medical Profession.

T. Nagarajan, Chief Electrical Engineer Ex-Officio & Additional Secretary.

Panaji, 2nd December, 1997.